

Application No. 10/782,487  
Amendment "A" dated March 30, 2005  
Reply to Office Action mailed February 25, 2005

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A two-part orthodontic bracket, comprising:  
a base;  
at least one slot associated with the base configured to receive an arch wire;  
a holding device pivotally connected to the base in a manner so that the holding device is movable about a pivot axis between an open position and a closed position relative to the base and slot, and so that the holding device is tiltable relative to the base about at least one axis other than the pivot axis; ~~and~~  
a latch for selectively latching and unlatching the holding device and base; and  
a guide system that reduces tiltability of the holding device as the holding device is moved toward the closed position, and wherein the guide system causes a reduction in the tiltability of the holding device independently of latching the holding device to the base.
2. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 1, further comprising a connection device that pivotally connects the holding device to the base.
3. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 2, wherein the connection device comprises at least a portion of the guide system.

Claims 4 – 5 (Cancelled).

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6. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 1, wherein the base and the holding device are only latchable in a precisely fixed spatial relationship to one another due to the guide system.
7. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 1 wherein the holding device comprises a cover having a rounded outer surface.
8. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 1, wherein the holding device is tiltable about at least one tilt angle in a range of about 0.5° to about 10° when in the open position.
9. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 8, wherein the holding device is tiltable about at least one tilt angle in a range of about 1° to about 8° when in the open position.
10. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 8, wherein the at least one tilt axis extends substantially horizontally when the base is arranged horizontally.
11. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 8, wherein the at least one tilt axis extends substantially vertically when the base is arranged horizontally.
12. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 1, wherein the holding device is movable about three axes perpendicular to one another when in the open position.
13. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 1, wherein the guide system comprises a movable bearing for the at least partly open holding device.

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14. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 2, wherein the connection device comprises at least one spigot which is received in a corresponding link guide.

15. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 2, wherein the connection device comprises at least one spigot which is received in a corresponding link guide, with the curvature of a first peripheral section of the link guide corresponding to the curvature of the spigot and the curvature of a second peripheral section of the link guide being greater than that of the first peripheral section.

16. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 2, wherein the connection device comprises two spigots which are each received in a corresponding link guide, with at least one link guide not surrounding the associated spigot along its entire periphery.

17. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 2, wherein the connection device comprises at least one spigot which is received in a corresponding link guide which has a passage opening for a connection web between the holding device and the spigot.

18. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 17, wherein the connection device forms a snap connection that holds the holding device to the base.

19. (Original) The two-part orthodontic bracket of claim 1, wherein the bracket comprises at least one of a metal, ceramic or rigid plastic.

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20. (Original) A two-part orthodontic bracket, comprising:
- a base;
  - at least one slot associated with the base configured to receive an arch wire;
  - a holding device pivotally connected to the base in a manner so that the holding device is movable about a pivot axis between an open position and a closed position relative to the base and slot, and so that the holding device is tiltable relative to the base about at least one axis other than the pivot axis; and
  - a connection device that pivotally connects the holding device to the base and that comprises a guide system that reduces tiltability of the holding device as the holding device is moved toward the closed position.
21. (Original) A two-part orthodontic bracket, comprising:
- a base;
  - at least one slot associated with the base configured to receive an arch wire;
  - a holding device pivotally connected to the base in a manner so that the holding device is moveable about a pivot axis between an open position and a closed position relative to the base and slot, so that the holding device is tiltable relative to the base about at least one axis other than the pivot axis; and
  - a connection device that pivotally connects the holding device to the base, the connection device comprising:
    - at least one spigot attached to an end of the holding device by a connection wire; and
    - at least one link guide attached to the base into which a portion of a corresponding spigot is received.

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22. (New) A two-part orthodontic bracket, comprising:

a base;

at least one slot associated with the base configured to receive an arch wire;

a holding device pivotally connected to the base in a manner so that the holding device is movable about a pivot axis between an open position and a closed position relative to the base and slot, and so that the holding device is tiltable relative to the base about at least one axis other than the pivot axis;

a connection device that pivotally connects the holding device to the base, and wherein the connection device comprises at least a portion of the guide system; and

a guide system that reduces tiltability of the holding device as the holding device is moved toward the closed position.

23. (New) A two-part orthodontic bracket, comprising:

a base;

at least one slot associated with the base configured to receive an arch wire;

a holding device pivotally connected to the base in a manner so that the holding device is movable about a pivot axis between an open position and a closed position relative to the base and slot, and so that the holding device is tiltable relative to the base about at least one axis other than the pivot axis; and

a guide system that reduces tiltability of the holding device as the holding device is moved toward the closed position, and wherein the guide system comprises a movable bearing for the at least partly open holding device.